

Lessons Learned Record of Interview

Project Title:				
LL-01				
Interview Code:				
LL-01				
Date/Time:				
10/29/2015; 7-10pm				
Location:				
Carlisle, PA				
Purpose:				
Preliminary informal interviews				
Interviewees:				
a, b, c, d				
SIGAR Attendees:				
Candace Rondeaux, Krisanne Campos				
Non- attribution Basis:	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
				On Background: Reference Organization Not Title
Recorded:	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Recording File Record Number: n/a				
Prepared By: (Name, title and date)				
Krisanne Campos, Research Analyst				
Reviewed By: (Name, title and date)				
Key Topics:				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Election and governance issues • Disconnect between DC and the field • Baseline data and aid conditionality • Civ-mil affairs 				
Key: "direct quote from interview subject"; [summary or background in analyst's words]; plain text is best estimation of verbatim				

Key takeaways:

Khalilzad-Ghani connection

- "a" – Khalilzad was classmates with Ghani in high school and then studied abroad together in the US, after which they spent a year together in Beirut [intimating they had a relationship and knew each other for many years]

Khalilzad's role

- "c" – Zal did way more than browbeat people over the King, constitution and Loya Jirga.

Election and Governance issues

- "d" – Biggest issue is that we didn't pair national elections with local elections.
- "b" – Afghanistan has never had a tradition of governance by democracy
- "d" – True, we should have built our assistance and government based on tribal structures. The premise of exporting democracy is in question.
- "b" – You cannot export democracy.
- [General conversation: land reform as the key issue that was largely ignored]

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Disconnect between the field and DC

- "a" – The second you get back from a mission, no matter how involved you were, no one at the embassy cares.
- "d" – [Agreed with above statement]. "Our careers are based on moving forward, not looking back."

On TFBSO

- Contractors as a backfill; greater support for enterprise
- Military not structured for development or business development of any kind

On baseline data and aid conditionality

- Don't give foreign assistance without a census or at least a commitment to done one regularly
- Principal-agent concept define the war

Civ-Mil affairs

- "*Posse comitatus*" [Constitutional Act against military involvement in civilian affairs]
- [Discussion about COIN field manual in light of *posse comitatus*]
- "a" – These kinds of diversions regarding the use of force not dictated in the Constitution or arbiters of use of force, such as an attorney general or the judicial system [fall under *posse comitatus*]. There's a bright line between containment with military force and policing.